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OFF TO BEGIN BATTLE

The Rock Island Baseball Team Leaves Tomorrow For Evansville.

DICKERING FOR NEW PLAYERS

Two Men for Infield Expected in Few Days—President Instructs Umpires.

The Rock Island baseball team leaves tomorrow morning for Evansville to play the opening game at that place May 2. Secretary Lou G. Eddy will probably accompany the boys on a portion of their first tour.

Negotiations are under way for a couple of players who, if secured, will add materially to the infield strength of the team. Terms have been offered by mail and a reply will be received by telegraph, so that it is possible there will be one or two new men on hand to open the season.

Nothing has been heard from Tommy Flannigan, the Delaware pitcher, who has been threatened with the blacklist if he does not report here at once in accordance with the contract he has signed.

A contract was closed by telegraph today by which E. H. Waller, of Omaha, is secured for second base. His record shows him to be a strong man and he has had considerable professional experience. He is expected here by tomorrow morning.

Billy Spratt has been notified he will be wanted at Norfolk, Va., where he is under contract in case ball is played, and where he captained the pennant-winning team in the Virginia league last year.

President to Meet Umpires.

President M. H. Sexton left this afternoon for Bloomington, where he will hold a conference with the umpires of the league and will then proceed on to visit the towns in which the opening game are being played to further familiarize himself with the manner of work the umpires are capable of doing and to lend such assistance as may be required in getting everything in good working order. The following letter, which has been placed in the hands of each umpire, briefly summarizes some of the general rules that will be observed in conducting the season's contests:

To the Umpires in the Illinois, Iowa and Indiana League of Baseball Clubs—Gentlemen: The duties of the position for which you have been selected are, in my judgment, the most important and the hardest to properly fulfill of any in connection with the game, and good or bad umpiring will do more to promote or injure the patronage than any other one element.

The rules for the government of the game give you most unlimited and arbitrary powers, and the careful and conservative use on your part of the powers bestowed will in large measure assist you in becoming a successful umpire.

Always remember that during the progress of a game you are absolute master of the field, and have the power to order any manager, captain or player to do, or omit to do, any action that you may deem necessary to give force and effect to the laws of the game.

It is expected that each umpire will enforce the rules exactly as he finds them, irrespective of his own opinion of any particular rule.

Under no circumstance must you allow any player, other than the captain, to dispute a decision involving a legal construction of the rules.

Will Back Decisions.

In a letter to all managers, captains and players in this league I have informed them that the line provided for under the rules will be imposed whenever the occasion warrants it, and I wish you to feel perfectly assured that I will assist you in an effort to furnish good and clean exhibitions, by insisting upon the prompt payment of all just fines imposed, and in all aggravated cases I shall suspend the offending player for such period of time as the offense merits.

Let me suggest that you pay particular attention to the following: The balk rule, No. 32. The rule which requires the base runner going from home to first base to keep within the three foot lines. The rule which requires the batsman to retain his seat on the players' bench until called to bat by the umpire.

In rendering decisions at first base, be sure that the ball is held on the base before the runner reaches base, otherwise the runner is safe. In case rain is falling during the game, never suspend play until the spectators in open seats are obliged to seek shelter. Always render your decisions promptly, and from first impressions, and never try to even up for any error of judgment. Just before calling play, face the grand stand and announce the names of the battery for each club.

I trust that you will each put forth your best efforts, and again assuring you that I will at all times endeavor to sustain you in promoting the welfare and best interests of the game, I am yours very truly,

M. H. SEXTON.

Baseball Notes.

Davenport defeated Dubuque yesterday, 19 to 1.

A 5-inning practice game was played with Augustana yesterday af-

ternoon. The college boys were not allowed to score, while Tate's men made 18 runs.

GROWING CROPS ARE MAKING GOOD PROGRESS

The Illinois crop bulletin for the week ending April 29 says:

"The week opened with cold weather, but temperatures have risen until warm, almost summerlike, weather prevails at the end of the week. There has been practically no rain during the week, and the soil in the southern part of the state, where wet weather interrupted farming operations, has generally come into excellent condition for tillage. The very favorable conditions for farming operations have been taken advantage of, and such rapid progress has been made that farm work in some localities has come into a very reasonable condition of advancement.

The warm weather has forced a rapid growth of vegetation, especially in those localities where the soil had not become rather dry, and good progress has been made by growing crops. Over the northern district and much of the central district rain begins to be badly needed, though as yet the effect of the dry weather has been shown only in a less rapid growth than would otherwise have taken place.

The prospects for wheat and rye appear to be excellent. In a few localities damage by Hessian fly is still feared, but over most of the fly infested region there appears to be improvement in the prospects. Oat seeding is generally completed, though in few localities, where wet weather delayed this work, considerable seeding remains to be done. A decreased acreage will be seeded in these localities. In many places oats are up and are making good growth. Preparing corn ground has been the principal work of the week, and rapid progress has been made. Considerable corn has been planted in the southern district and some has been planted in both northern and central districts. Grass is growing slowly, but the crop generally looks well. Stock has been turned on pastures in many localities. Considerable potato planting and gardening has been done. Fruit truck is growing nicely. Garden prospects continue very fine, and trees are in bloom or buds are rapidly swelling over all the state. Some damage by frost of previous week is still feared in the southern district, but such fears have been lessened considerably during the week."

29 YEARS OF MAY WEATHER.

Data Concerning the Month Compiled by Observer Sherier.

Data concerning the month of May for a period of 29 years has been compiled from the local weather records by Observer J. M. Sherier. The mean or normal temperature has been 61, the warmest month being that of 1881 with an average of 68, and the coldest that of 1882, with an average of 54. The highest temperature was 90 on the 9th, 1887, and the lowest 29 on the 7th, 1885. The average precipitation for the month was 4.32 inches. The greatest monthly precipitation was 9.25 inches in 1888, and the least 1.34 inches in 1881. The greatest amount of precipitation recorded in any 24 consecutive hours was 2.79 inches on the 18th, 1876. The average number of clear days was 9, partly cloudy 12 and cloudy 9. The prevailing winds have been from the northwest. The highest velocity of the wind was 50 miles on the 16th, 1896.

A Musical Treat.

The concert by the Spiering quartet, of Chicago, given at the Y. M. C. auditorium last night, was a fine musical treat, and was enjoyed by a critical audience. The entertainment was under the auspices of the Tonagea quartet, of this city, which assisted, furnishing the opening and closing numbers. The Spiering quartet was brought here through Prof. C. F. Toenniges, who recently moved from Davenport to Rock Island, and the musical people of the city who were present last night certainly feel grateful to him for such a splendid attraction. The Spiering quartet is composed of Theodore Spiering, first violin; Otto Roehrn, second violin; Adolph Wedig, viola, and Herman Diestel, cello. Aside from the quartet selections there were solos by Mr. Diestel and Mr. Spiering.

Buildings to Be Sold.

Reidy Bros. are receiving bids on the buildings located at Nos. 3031, 3035 3039 3041, 3045 and 3049 Fifth avenue, Rock Island.

For further particulars call on or write REIDY BROS., Real Estate Agents.

He Kept His Leg.

Twelve years ago J. W. Sullivan, of Hartford, Conn., scratched his leg with a rusty wire. Inflammation and blood poisoning set in. For two years he suffered intensely. Then the best doctors urged amputation, "but," he writes, "I used one bottle of Electric Bitters and one one-half box of Bucklen's Arnica Salve and my leg was sound and well as ever."

For eruptions, eczema, tetter, salt rheum, sores and all blood disorders Electric Bitters has no rival on earth. Try them. Hartz & Ulmeyer will guarantee satisfaction or refund money. Only 50 cents.

\$5,000 will be paid to any one producing as good a spring tonic as Rocky Mountain Tea. A family blessing. 35 cents. T. H. Thomas' pharmacy.

FIRE ALARM ORDERED

City Council Adopts Bid of Gamewell Company for a 40-Box System.

EFFORT TO DELAY A SELECTION

Aldermen Spend Two Hours in Debate—Railroad Committee Named.

After a 2 hours' session, in which repeated efforts were made by several of the aldermen to defer the selection of a system, the city council last night accepted the bid of the Gamewell Fire Alarm and Telegraph company, of Chicago, which proposes to install a 40-box system for \$9,987, adopting by a vote of 8 to 5 the following resolution offered by Ald. T. A. Pender:

"Resolved, That the bid of the Gamewell company for the installation of a 40-box fire alarm system to meet the requirements of our call for bids, be accepted, as its system is universally acknowledged to be the very best, and that the mayor, city clerk and city attorney be instructed to execute a proper contract with the said Gamewell company for the purchase and installation of a system such as required in our call." The vote on the resolution was: Ayes—Wilkins, Hildemann, Snyder, Freed, Andrews, Willis, Moeller, Pender—8; nays—Robbins, Gall, Kennedy, Soderstrom, Anderson—5.

There were propositions also from the Iowa Automatic Fire Alarm company, of Newton, Iowa; the National Autophone company, of New York, through the Rock Island Construction company; and F. C. Stover, of Chicago, the last named gentleman, who is the western representative of the Gamewell company making two individual bids for the purpose, as he put it, of meeting cheap competition.

E. E. Saulsbury superintendent of equipment of the National Autophone company, was before the council with his apparatus, and gave it a test. It worked to perfection and the aldermen seemed impressed with its good points of which it apparently has many, the only objection to it being that it was an experiment, and the aldermen felt that Rock Island had been experimenting long enough now and wanted something that had stood the test of years.

Aids Anderson and Kennedy favored referring the bids to the fire and light and health and police committees for further consideration, contending that the present council could not legally contract an expenditure as long as provided, a bid not being made by appropriation to meet it. Ald. Robbins said the financial question was trivial in a matter of such great importance to the city and its people but he believed that all systems should be thoroughly investigated before any one was adopted. Aids Andrews, Willis and Pender were outspoken in favor of the Gamewell. They had learned by personal visits to cities where it was in operation that it was giving perfect satisfaction. It was a high priced, but it was the real article.

Chairmen Refuse to Act. After the council had been in committee of the whole for nearly an hour discussing the merits of the different systems and the advisability of making an immediate selection, Ald. Pender moved that the matter be referred to the fire and light and health and police committees to report in a half an hour. Ald. Kennedy, chairman of the police committee, and Ald. Soderstrom, chairman of the fire and light committee, refused to act. Ald. Kennedy was opposed to what he termed hasty action.

"You have been dillying with this question for three months," said Ald. Pender, "and you ought to know what you want by this time if you ever intend making up your mind."

At the expiration of the half hour Ald. Pender announced that the committees failed to formulate a report and instead he submitted the resolution given above.

Ald. Gall moved that the committee be given further time. The motion was defeated 9 to 4. Another motion by Ald. Gall for adjournment was voted down 7 to 6, and finally Ald. Pender's resolution was adopted.

The new fire alarms will, barring unforeseen obstacles, be in place within the next few months. The system adopted is believed to be the best the market offered, and will insure to Rock Island, with the cooperation of its excellently equipped fire department, that protection from the flames that inspires security.

To Interview Railroads. The following offered by Ald. F. E. Robbins was unanimously adopted: "Resolved, That the mayor appoint a committee of four to include the mayor, the mayor-elect and two aldermen, to act in conjunction with the committees of the Rock Island Club and Retail Merchants' association, in respect to the running of the C. M. & St. P. railway company's Kansas City trains via Rock Island and any other railway business that may in any way affect the interests of Rock Island." The mayor named Aids Anderson and Andrews, who with Mayor McConchie and Mayor-elect B. F. Knox, compose the committee.

Subscribe for THE ARGUS.

REV. BRUNER RESIGNS ENGLEWOOD CHARGE.

Politics in the pulpit and quarrels over the preacher's salary, fraught with allegations of various kinds, are the supposed causes that led to the resignation Sunday of Rev. Frank C. Bruner, pastor of the Englewood Second Methodist Episcopal church and a former resident of Rock Island county. The pastor read his resignation at the morning service, and, though it had been an open secret that there was strife between him and the officials, his decision came as a complete surprise.

Rev. Mr. Bruner gave as his reason the falling health of his wife. He explained in addition that he was preparing to go on the lecture platform and that he would be open to supply pulpits during the summer. For this work, he explained, he felt fully equipped, being in the best of health.

SUNDAY SCHOOL WORKERS ARE TO MEET THIS WEEK

The Rock Island County Sunday School association is to hold its 24th annual convention in this city Thursday and Friday of this week. The program follows:

Thursday 2 p. m.—Song service and devotionals, Rev. G. B. Simons, Rock Island; "Things Worth Finding," Miss Christena Mehrlay, of Rock Island; "Encouragement From Past Experiences," Rev. William Torrance, D. D.; "The Township Organization," Rev. H. Moser, field secretary, reports, president, statistical secretary, treasurer, Evening session—7:30 o'clock, praise service, Rev. J. F. Robinson, Moline; solo, "Ecce Homo," J. A. Johnson, Rock Island; quartet; address, "Denominational Cooperation," Rev. W. H. Blencke, Davenport; duet, "Guide Me! O Thou Great Jehovah," Mrs. W. F. Bradley and J. A. Johnson, Rock Island; assignment of delegates.

Friday morning—9 o'clock, "Finding Help From the Great Helper, Bible Text and Prayer Service," led by Rev. J. B. Bartle, Moline; "Things Yet to Be Found," Rev. H. Moser; "Sunday School Music," Rev. E. McOmber, Taylor Ridge; "Home Department," Rev. J. F. Robinson, Moline; Round Table on Sunday School Management, E. B. McKown, Rock Island; election of officers. Afternoon session—2 o'clock devotionals; Primary Work—Mrs. S. D. Cleland, Rock Island; "Devotion D. y.," Mrs. Ella Alt-Rutter, Rock Island; "How to Secure and Hold Boys in the Sunday School," Miss Rose Runyan, Rock Island; "Normal Work," Rev. H. Moser; "Teachers' Meetings," S. S. Kemble, Rock Island; Round Table on the Sunday School Teacher, Dr. J. W. Stewart; "Facing the Future," Rev. W. Moser.

The day sessions are to be held at Memorial Christian church the Thursday evening meeting to be at the First Baptist church.

The greatest children medicine on earth is Rocky Mount Tea. Made by Madison Medicine company. Makes and keeps them well all summer. 35 cents. T. H. Thomas' pharmacy.

A Hint

And a few pointers for the House Cleaning Time can be found in the following.

Scrubbing Brush, 5c and up..... 5c
Stove Brushes, 10c and up..... 10c
Mop Sticks, 10c and up..... 10c
Shoe Brushes, 10c and up..... 10c
Packaging Gold Dust, 5c and up..... 5c
2 Bar Soap, 10c and up..... 10c
Wash Boards, 15c and up..... 15c
10 lbs Oatmeal, per can..... 25c
Table Peaches, per can..... 10c
Table Apricots, per can..... 12c
1 lb can baking Powder..... 20c
1 lb Corn Starch..... 5c
Imported Oil Sardines..... 10c
Sliced Pine Apple..... 12c
3 cans Tomatoes..... 25c
Can corn 6c and up..... 6c
3 Cans Apples..... 25c
1 lb can Salmon..... 10c
Packaging Soda..... 5c
Patent Flour..... 95c
2 packages Mince Meat..... 15c

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We cheerfully explain our terms and methods to any who call.

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I had four teeth extracted positively painless. I cheerfully recommend to the public that the doctor's anaesthetic is perfectly harmless for elderly people as well the young.—T. O. Felts, M. D.
I had six teeth extracted without pain. The doctor is very careful in his extracting. I recommend him highly.—C. W. Donald, 107 Fourth avenue.
Don't hurt a bit. I had 15 teeth extracted absolutely without pain.—Mrs. W. H. Wise, 323 F. nineteenth street.
I had eight teeth crowned with gold and five gold fillings. All work was absolutely painless.—Miss Agnes Bergendahl, 559 Twenty-sixth street.
At one sitting I had 17 teeth extracted painlessly. My gums were not sore at all.—Mrs. Martin Jacobson, 4016 Seventh avenue.
My face was badly swollen from an ulcerated tooth. They extracted the tooth without pain.—Charles Carlson, 327 Third street and Fifth avenue.

BEST RED RUBBER PLATE.....	\$6.00	GOLD FILLING.....	\$1.00 and up
BRIDGE WORK PER TOOTH.....	5.00	SILVER FILLING.....	50c
BEST GOLD CROWNS.....	\$2.50 and up	PAINLESS EXTRACTING.....	50c

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